

**BOTLEY WEST SOLAR FARM (BWSF) REF: EN010147**

**SUMMARY OF WRITTEN REPRESENTATION OF  
VALE OF WHITE HORSE DISTRICT COUNCIL (VWHDC)**

1. The VWHDC RR [RR-1086] set out relevant development plan policies and concerns on Green Belt, landscape and visual impacts, and heritage assets with the proposed development.
2. The proposed development is inappropriate development in the Oxford Green Belt which is, by definition, harmful and carries substantial weight.
3. National policy is clear that for this DCO application to be successful, there must exist Very Special Circumstances (VSC) to justify the use of Green Belt land.
4. The harm caused by reason of inappropriate development in the Green Belt, and the loss of openness is not outweighed by VSC or other considerations, as the benefits of the proposed development can be realised on land elsewhere outside of the Oxford Green Belt.
5. The proposed development is contrary to policies CP13 CP41 and CP44 of the Development Plan and to National Policy.
6. The proposed development is contrary to policy CP43 of the Development Plan which seeks to avoid developing the best and most versatile agricultural land preferring use of areas of poorer quality land in preference to that of higher quality.
7. VWHDC considers it is not possible to locate solar development of this scale without significant adverse effects on landscape, views, and the setting of heritage assets. The proposed development is contrary to policies CP39, CP41 and CP44, DP36, DP37 and DP38 of the Development Plan.
8. There is insufficient information to make an informed and reasoned judgement on the ecological and biodiversity impacts of the proposed development. The proposed development is contrary to policy CP46 of the Development Plan and to National Policy.
9. Concern remains on the lack of clarity of the design requirements for grid connections and a lack of information on NGET substation design.
10. The Written Representation provides a consideration of harms v benefits of the proposed development and the weight to accord to each.

11. VWHDC does not object in principle to the proposed development. The proposed development, however, comprises inappropriate development in the Oxford Green Belt where VSC do not exist, and harms identified on landscape and heritage assets is not outweighed by public benefits of the proposed development.
12. The Southern Site should be removed from the application.